## HISTORY

OF

## DELAWARE COUNTY

AND

## OHIO.

Certaining a brief History of the State of Ohio, from its earliest settlement to the present time, embracing its topography, geological, physical and climatic features; its agricultural, stock-growing, railroad interests, etc.; a History of Delaware County, giving an account of its aborizinal inhabitants, early settlement by the whites, pioneer incidents, its growth, its improvements, organization of the county, its judicial and political history, its business and industries, churches, schools, etc.; Biographical Sketches; Portraits of some of the Farly Settlers and Prominent Men.

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## CHAPTER IX.

WAR HISTORY—THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE—WAR OF 1812—THE MEXICAN WAR—WAR OF THE REBELLION—SOME DISTINGUISHED MEN AND SOLDIERS.

"Of all the men Whom day's departing beam saw blooming there, In proud and vigorous health; of all the hearts That beat with anxious life at sunset there. How sew survive, how sew are beating now! All is deep silence, like the fearful calm That slumbers in the storm's portentous pause: Save when the frantic wail of widowed love Comes shuddering on the blast, or the faint moan With which some soul bursts from the frame of clay Wrapt round its struggling powers."—Shelley.

THE patriotism of Delaware County is above re-Proach; the bravery of her sons has been tested on hundreds of battle-fields. Many of the early settlers of the county were soldiers in our great struggle for independence, and some, perhaps, had fought in the old French and Indian war. These wars, however, occurred long before there were any settlements made in Delaware County. The close of the Revolutionary war found the weak and feeble Government bankrupt, and the soldiers who had fought for liberty were forced to accept Western lands in payment for long years of military service. This brought many pioneers to the great wilderness of the West, and particularly to Ohio, where large bodies of lands are still designated as "United States Military Lands" and "Virginia Military Lands." These were lands set apart for the benefit of Revolution.

half of which has not yet been told," and much of which, perhaps, will never be written—the great rebellion. To it, and the country's participation in it, we shall have more to say in this chapter.

In the war of 1812, and the Indian wars of that period, Delaware County, comprising then but a population of a few hundreds, came forward with the same lofty spirit of patriotism which has ever since pervaded her sons, and which characterized their Revolutionary sires. There were some who had been present at the surrender of Cornwallis, and others who had been with Gates and Greene in the South, while many others were descendants of such heroic stock; and, when the tocsin of war sounded, and the roar of the British lion was again heard in the land, like the clans of Roderick Dhu, who assembled for battle at the "circling o'er" of the "fiery cross"—

> "Fast as the fatal symbol flies, In arms the huts and hamlets rise; From winding glen, from upland brown, They poured each hardy tenant down. The fisherman forsook the strand, The swarthy smith took dirk and brand, With changed cheer the mower blithe Lest in the half-cut swath his scythe; The herds without a keeper strayed, The plow was in mid-furrow stayed "-

ary soldiers, by the United States Government. they took down their old flint-lock fowling-The best years of the lives of these old soldiers—pieces and hastened to offer themselves for the dehad been spent fighting for their country. Peace—fense of their country. Many enlisted upon their found them broken down in spirit and in body, arrival in the county as emigrants, even before and many of them in fortune, and, when a home they had found shelter for their families, and others and lands were offered them in the West, there were drafted into the service while on their way to remained no other alternative but to accept, and, their destined place of settlement. The whole like the poor Indian himself, move on toward the number who served in the army from this county setting sun. Such was the noble and warlike during the war, cannot, after this long lapse of stock from whom sprang the majority of the time, be given, but comprised most all of the ablepresent generation of Delaware County. bodied men. A company of cavalry was raised in The Revolutionary war, and the causes which the county, of which Elias Murray was Captain, led to it, are familiar to every school-boy in the and James W. Crawford, the father of Col. Crawcountry, and hence require no special notice in ford, of Delaware, was a Licutenant, and did duty this work. The early wars of our country are for some time: while several regiments, or portions familiar as household words, and are merely men- of regiments, of infantry, were recruited; and, upon tioned in this connection as a prelude to one, "the special alarms, the militia was called out to defend

the settlements. As a matter of some interest to wag, and naturally very fond of sport, and, being our modern soldiers, we give the following abstract withal desirous of testing the courage of his men, from the Quartermaster's Department during this after they had all got asleep, he slipped into the war. Rations—11 pounds of beef; 3 pounds of pork; bushes at some distance, and, discharging his gun, 13 ounces of bread or flour; 1 gill of whisky. rushed towards the camp yelling "Indians! In-At the rate of 2 quarts of salt, 4 quarts of vin-dians!" with all his might. The sentinels, supegar, 4 pounds of soap and 1½ pounds of candles posing the alarm to proceed from one of their to every 100 rations. And from the Paymaster's number, joined in the cry, and ran to quarters; Department: Colonel, \$75 per month, 5 rations the men sprang to their feet in complete confusion, and \$12 for forage; Major, \$50 per month and and the courageous attempted to form on the 3 rations; Captain, \$40 and 3 rations; First ground designated the night before in case of at-Lieutenant, \$30 and 2 rations; Second Lieuten- tack; but the First Lieutenant, thinking there was ant, \$20 and 2 rations; Ensign, \$20 and 2 rations; more safety in depending upon legs than arms, Sergeant Major, \$9; Second Master Sergeant, took to his heels and dashed into the woods. \$9; other Sergeants, \$8; Corporals, \$7; musi- Seeing the consternation and impending disgrace

his march to Fort Meigs, or Fort Sandusky, passes frightened imagination converted every sound into through the county and through the city of Del- Indian yells and the sanguinary war-whoop, and aware. Through the latter, it is known as the louder the Captain shouted, the faster he ran, Sandusky street, in consequence of its northern till the sounds sank away in the distance, and he terminus. There is also a legend to the effect that supposed the Captain and his adherents had suc-Harrison's army spent the winter in Delaware cumbed to the tomahawk and the scalping-knife. during the 1812 campaign, but how true we can- | Supposing he had been asleep a few minutes only, not say. However, the quiet and peaceable citi-, he took the moon for his guide, and flew for home. zens of Delaware, as they witness the "Joy Having had time to gain the western horizon, she Guards" performing their harmless evolutions on led him in the wrong direction; and, after breaking the streets, cannot, without considerable effort, re- down saplings, and running through the woods call the presence of a hostile army in their city, and brush some ten miles, he reached Radnor eagerly panting for war, and of—

"Red battle With blood-red tresses deepening in the sun, And death-shot glowing in his fiery hands."

If Gen. Harrison did encamp in Delaware through the winter of 1813-14, the matter will be brought began a general and rapid flight. Each conveyed to light by our township historian, and given the the tidings to his neighbor, and just after sunrise prominence that such an historical occurrence nat- | they came rushing through Delaware, mostly on urally demands.

recruited a company of mounted men in the north frontier settlers naturally would, supposing the part, and, for a period, performed active service. Indians close in their rear. Many anecdotes are He is still remembered from a circumstance known told, amusing now to us who cannot realize their in history as "Drake's Defeat," and to omit it feelings, that exhibit the varied hues of trepidawould detract from the interest of our work. We tion characterizing different persons, and also show quote from Howe: "After Hull's surrender, Capt. that there is no difference between real and supprotect the frontier from marauding bands of In-seldom receive the sympathies of their fellows. dians who then had nothing to restrain them; and, One family, named Penry, drove so fast that they when Lower Sandusky was threatened with attack, bounced a little boy, two or three years old, out of this company with alacrity obeyed the call to the wagon, near Delaware, and did not miss him march to its defense. They encamped the first until they had gone five or six miles on their way to night a few miles beyond the outskirts of the settle- Worthington, and then upon consultation concluded ment. In those days, the Captain was a great it was too late to recover him amid such imminent

cians, \$6; and privates, \$6 per month. of his company, the Captain quickly proclaimed The old military road Gen. Harrison made in the hoax and ordered a halt, but the Lieutenant's settlement just at daybreak, bareheaded, and with his garments flowing in a thousand streamers. The people roused hurriedly from their slumber, and, horrified with his report that the whole company was massacred but him who alone had escaped, horseback, many in wagons, and some on foot, Capt. William Drake, a resident of the county, presenting all those grotesque appearances that William Drake formed a company of rangers to posed danger—and yet those actuated by the latter